

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mitsunori TOYODA, Osamu TANITSU, Yuichiro TAKEUCHI, Shigeru HIRUKAWA, Kyoichi SUWA and Toshiharu NAKASHIMA

Application No.: Rule 53(b) Continuation of 10/223,607 filed August 20, 2002

Filed: March 11, 2004

Docket No.: 113485.01

For: ILLUMINATION OPTICAL APPARATUS, EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND METHOD OF EXPOSURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- 3. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 10/223,607, filed August 20, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Date: March 11, 2004

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| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
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| Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) | US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY DOCKET NO. 113485.01 | APPLICATION NO. Rule 53(b) Continuation of 10/223,607 filed August 20, 2002 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | APPLICANT(S) Mitsunori TOYODA, Osamu TANITSU, Yuichiro TAKEUCHI, Shigeru HIRUKAWA, Kyoichi SUWA and Toshiharu NAKASHIMA | |
| | | FILING DATE March 11, 2004 | GROUP |

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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.